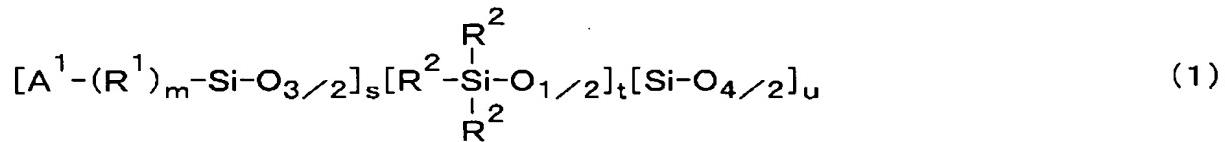


ABSTRACT

The alkali-soluble silicon-containing polymer of the present invention is represented by the general formula (1) below and has a weight-average molecular weight in the range from 500 to 500,000:



(In the formula, A^1 is a phenyl group having either a hydroxyl group or an alkoxy group; R^1 is an alkylene group of 1-4 carbons; m is 0 or 1; R^2 is an alkyl group of 1-4 carbons; each of s and u is a positive number; t is 0 or a positive number; $0 \leq t/(s + u) \leq 1$; and $0 < u/s \leq 5$).